

9 FAM Appendix C, BAHAMAS

(TL:VISA-445; 08-05-2002)

RECIPROCITY

(TL:VISA-445; 08-05-2002)

Visa	Fee	No. Applications	Validity
A-1	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS
A-2	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS
A-3 [1]	NONE	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS
B-1	NONE	MULTIPLE	120 MONTHS
B-2	NONE	MULTIPLE	120 MONTHS
B-1/B-2	NONE	MULTIPLE	120 MONTHS
C-1	NONE	MULTIPLE	60 MONTHS
C-1/D	NONE	MULTIPLE	60 MONTHS
C-2	NONE	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS
C-3	NONE	MULTIPLE	60 MONTHS
D	NONE	MULTIPLE	60 MONTHS
E-1 [2]	NO TREATY	N/A	N/A
E-2 [2]	NO TREATY	N/A	N/A
F-1	NONE	MULTIPLE	60 MONTHS
F-2	NONE	MULTIPLE	60 MONTHS
G-1	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS
G-2	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS
G-3	NONE	MULTIPLE	24MONTHS
G-4	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS
G-5 [1]	NONE	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS
H-1B	\$400.00	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS [3]
H-1C	\$400.00	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS [3]
H-2A	\$300.00	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS [3]
H-2B	\$300.00	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS [3]
H-3	NONE	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS [3]
H-4	\$20.00	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS [3]
I	NONE	MULTIPLE	60 MONTHS
J-1 [4]	NONE	MULTIPLE	60 MONTHS
J-2 [4]	NONE	MULTIPLE	60 MONTHS
K-1	NONE	ONE	6 MONTHS
K-2	NONE	ONE	6 MONTHS
K-3	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS
K-4	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS
L-1	\$500.00	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS [3]
L-2	\$20.00	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS [3]
M-1	NONE	MULTIPLE	60 MONTHS
M-2	NONE	MULTIPLE	60 MONTHS
N-8	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS
N-9	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS
NATO 1-7	N/A	N/A	N/A
O-1	\$400.00	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS [3]

O-2	\$400.00	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS [3]
O-3	\$400.00	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS [3]
P-1	\$400.00	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS [3]
P-2	\$400.00	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS [3]
P-3	\$400.00	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS [3]
P-4	\$400.00	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS [3]
Q-1 [6]	\$400.00	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS [3]
R-1	\$400.00	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS
R-2	\$400.00	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS
S-5 [7]	NONE	ONE	1 MONTH
S-6 [7]	NONE	ONE	1 MONTH
S-7 [7]	NONE	ONE	1 MONTH
T-1 [9]	N/A	N/A	N/A
T-2	NONE	ONE	6 MONTHS
T-3	NONE	ONE	6 MONTHS
T-4	NONE	ONE	6 MONTHS
TD [5]	N/A	N/A	N/A
V-1	NONE	MULTIPLE	120 MONTHS
V-2	NONE	MULTIPLE	120 MONTHS [8]
V-3	NONE	MULTIPLE	120 MONTHS [8]

Note on Reciprocity

Aliens who have permanent resident or refugee status in the Bahamas may be accorded Bahamian reciprocity, but only if the alien applies in the Bahamas. Aliens with permanent resident or refugee status in the Bahamas, but who apply outside of the country of residence (Bahamas), must be accorded the reciprocity of their country of nationality.

Applicants of Iranian, Iraqi or Libyan nationality who have permanent resident or refugee status in the Bahamas may **not** be accorded Bahamian reciprocity, even when applying in the Bahamas.

SPECIAL CLEARANCE AND ISSUANCE PROCEDURES

(TL:VISA-1073; 03-12-1986)

Normal processing time for outside clearance is 3 to 4 weeks from receipt. (A fingerprint chart may be requested in some cases.) Posts with CLASS capability should not send IV clearance requests to Nassau unless a CLASS check indicates derogatory information on file there.

DOCUMENTS AND RECORDS

Police Record

(TL:VISA-362; 03-06-2002)

Available. Police certificates indicating whether the person has a police record are obtainable in person from the Superintendent, Criminal Record Office, Royal Bahamas Police in Nassau, upon presentation of the applicant's passport. This office issues police certificates for all of the islands of The Bahamas. The Criminal Records Office (CRO) in New Providence is the only location where records are computerized. Additionally, hand-written police certificates are issued at several satellite offices in New Providence and in a few of the family islands once the appropriate information is faxed to the CRO for clearance. Satellite stations include Cable Beach, Quakoo Street, and the Carmichael and Elizabeth Estates Police Stations. Police certificates may also be obtained from police stations on Andros, Eleuthera, Long Island, Abaco, and Grand Bahama Islands. In addition to the officer's signature, a wet seal bearing the issue date, the words "Royal Bahamas Police Force", and the name of the issuing office is placed on the certificate.

Records are purged periodically by the CRO (no stipulated time). Records of deceased individuals are destroyed. Expunged records are archived, as are records of any case where an appeal of a conviction is upheld (this only applies to cases where prior arrests or convictions exist). Records or convictions overturned on appeal, where there are no prior arrests or convictions, are destroyed. Law does not permit those records to be retained by the CRO.

Identification numbers are assigned to individuals for all arrests. An additional identification is assigned for all convictions. These numbers are automatically assigned by computer once a new case is entered. This is done chronologically each year. Once a number has been assigned, it remains with the individual. Records can therefore be retrieved by the identification number or the individual's name.

A passport is required for Bahamians and non-Bahamians requesting a police certificate. A police certificate may be issued to non-Bahamian residents regardless of the length of time residing in the Bahamas. Former residents of the Bahamas (Bahamian/non-Bahamian) also may be issued police certificates. A copy of the biographical data page(s) is required if application is made outside of the Bahamas. Former residents of the Bahamas and those not residing in Nassau may address an individual request for such certificates to Superintendent, CID, Criminal Records Office, Royal Bahamas Police, P.O. Box N-3020. Nassau. Request should include the full name, date, place of birth, nationality, and period resided in the Bahamas, and must be accompanied by fingerprint charts.

Prison Record

(TL:VISA-1004; 01-19-1982)

Unavailable.

Court Transcripts

(TL:VISA-180; 10-15-1998)

Available. If required in an individual case, court transcripts must be obtained by the Embassy at Nassau. Bahamian courts will not release such transcripts to a private individual.

Military Record

(TL:VISA-1004; 01-19-1982)

Unavailable.

Birth Certificate

(TL:VISA-180; 10-15-1998)

Available. Although birth records have been maintained in The Bahamas since 1850, there is no law requiring that births must be reported. In most cases, the person is able to obtain a birth certificate. However, it frequently occurs that the Christian name of the person was not recorded at the time of birth. This is particularly true of applicants born in the Out Islands (outside of Nassau). As a result, it is often necessary for applicants to obtain affidavits regarding their Christian names, or to have their certificates substantiated with baptismal records. Birth certificates are obtainable from the Registrar General of The Bahamas in Nassau for birth

on any island. They are issued in the form of a certified copy of entry in the Register of Births at the Registrar General's Office, and show the birth in the District for the quarter year in which the birth occurred. They are signed by the Registrar General or his or her Deputy, and bear the seal of the office. Former residents may obtain certificates by mail addressed to: Registrar General of The Bahamas, P.O. Box N-532, Nassau, with a bank draft or money order payable to "Registrar General of The Bahamas." For a list of fees, applicants should check with the Bahamian consular office nearest their place of residence.

Marriage Certificate

(TL:VISA-180; 10-15-1998)

Available from the Registrar General at Nassau. [See Birth Certificates above for mailing address.] The document is certified to be a true copy of an entry in a Register of Marriages in the district mentioned, and is signed by the Registrar General or his or her Deputy, and bears the seal of the office.

Death Certificate

(TL:VISA-180; 10-15-1998)

Available. Same procedures as for birth certificates.

Divorce Certificate

(TL:VISA-180; 10-15-1998)

Available. Certified copies of final divorce decrees may be obtained from the Registrar of the Supreme Court. Original decrees bear the signature of the Chief Justice or a Judge of the Supreme Court, Nassau, who granted the decree. Former residents may address their requests to: Registrar, Supreme Court of the Bahamas, P.O. Box N-167, Nassau. Fees vary according to the number of pages.

Adoption Certificate

(TL:VISA-180; 10-15-1998)

Available. The document, which is certified to be a true copy of an entry in a register of adoption in the district mentioned, is signed by the Registrar General or his or her Deputy, and bears the seal of the office. Mail requests should be addressed to: Registrar General of The Bahamas, P.O. Box N-532, Nassau. For a list of fees, applicants should check with the Bahamian consular office nearest their place of residence. The bank draft or money order should be made payable to "Registrar General of The Bahamas".

VISA ISSUING POST

(TL:VISA-1073; 03-12-1986)

Nassau (E) All Categories

GEOGRAPHIC AREAS SERVICED

(TL:VISA-1073; 03-12-1986)

All of the Bahamas, and the Turks and Caicos Islands.